

Message Text

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SUBJ: CIVAIR, WEU ASSEMBLY SEMINAR ON EUROPEAN
AERONAUTICAL POLICY

REF: AIRGRAM PARIS A-20

1. JEAN VALLEIX, UDR DEPUTY FROM THE GIRONDE WHO WAS A
PARLIAMENTARY RAPPORTEUR AT THE WEU ASSEMBLY SEMINAR ON
EUROPEAN AERONAUTICAL POLICY HELD AT TOULOUSE BETWEEN
FEB 2 AND 3, PROVIDED ME WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS
ON THE DELIBERATIONS AT THE SEMINAR:

2. THERE HAS BEEN A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN ATTITUDE
ON THE PART OF THE EUROPEANS CONCERNING COOPERATION
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WITH U.S. IN AERONAUTIC FIELD. IN 73 CONFERENCE ON THIS

SUBJECT EUROPEANS WERE PREOCCUPIED MAINLY WITH DEVELOPING EUROPE'S AERONAUTIC INDUSTRY UNILATERALLY. THIS YEAR, THERE WAS A CONSENSUS THAT ALTHOUGH EUROPE SHOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO DEVELOP ITS AVIATION INDUSTRY, CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE US AVIATION INDUSTRY IS NOT ONLY DESIRABLE BUT A NECESSITY, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF MARKETING. THE ONE FUNDAMENTAL CONDITION IS THAT COOPERATION WITH THE US MUST BE ON A BASIS OF EQUALITY. WHAT HAD TO BE AVOIDED WAS A RELATIONSHIP WHEREBY EUROPE WOULD BECOME MERELY A SUB CONTRACTOR TO THE US AVIATION INDUSTRY.

3. EUROPEANS INSIST THAT THEY BE GIVEN A MUCH LARGER SHARE OF THE CIVIL AVIATION MARKET. AT THE PRESENT TIME US CONTROLS APPROXIMATELY 95 PERCENT OF THAT MARKET WORLDWIDE, VALLEIX SAID. THE EUROPEAN CIVIL AVIATION INDUSTRY WILL SEEK TO OBTAIN BETWEEN 25 AND 28 PERCENT OF THAT MARKET.

4. VALLEIX CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS, THAT SIX FUNDAMENTAL PROPOSITIONS EMERGED FROM THE SEMINAR WHICH WILL BE DEBATED IN PARIS IN JUNE 1976 WHEN PLENARY ASSEMBLY OF THE WEU MEETS. THESE BASIC PROPOSITIONS ARE AS FOLLOW:

A. THE NECESSITY FOR DEVELOPING A EUROPEAN AERONAUTIC POLICY WAS DEFINED. HOWEVER, NECESSITY OF BETTER COORDINATION OF TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL POINTS OF VIEW WAS UNDERLINED.

B. A EUROPEAN AERONAUTIC MARKET WOULD NOT BE STRENGTHENED BY PROTECTIONISM SUCH AS THAT WHICH PREVAILS IN THE USA.

C. GIVEN THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SITUATION, IT WOULD NOT BE REALISTIC TO ENCOURAGE MERGERS IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE; ON THE OTHER HAND, COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS SUCH AS "AIRBUS INDUSTRIES" SERVE AS EXAMPLES TO FOLLOW.

D. ALTHOUGH EUROPE HAS A TECHNOLOGICAL BASE WHICH ALLOWS IT TO COMPETE WITH ITS AMERICAN RIVALS, CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAS TO BE MADE IN THE COMMERCIAL FIELD, ESPECIALLY IN AFTER SALES SERVICING.

E. EVENTUAL COOPERATION WITH THE USA WOULD BE DESIRABLE ON SPECIFIC CIVIL AVIATION PROGRAMS, IF SUCH COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS ARE CONCLUDED ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY.

F. A COMPETITIVE PROGRAM OF EUROPEAN AIRCRAFT SALES
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SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND CUSTOMERS IN ALL THE MARKETS OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING THAT OF THE USA. IN THIS SENSE THERE WERE SEVERAL PROPOSALS TO CREATE AERONAUTIC AGENCIES ACCREDITED TO SPEAK IN THE NAME OF THE SIX WEU PARTNERS.
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